



# Cholla District Network News



**Councilmember Manny Martinez, City of Glendale**

**November 4, 2011**

**City Offices Will Close November 11, 24 and 25.** City of Glendale offices will be closed for the following upcoming holidays: Friday, Nov. 11, for the Veterans Day holiday, and Thursday, Nov. 24, and Friday, Nov. 25, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. [Click here for more details.](#)

**Boards and Commissions.** The Glendale City Council has appointed several residents to serve on advisory boards and commissions. Glendale's boards and commissions assist the City Council in making important policy decisions that impact the community. Congratulations to Jo Ann Lee of the Cholla district who was appointed to serve on the Arts Commission.

Glendale's volunteer citizen advisory groups research, study and discuss specific projects and issues and then forward their recommendations to the City Council.

Residents can request an application to serve on a citizen advisory group or obtain more information by calling the Council Office at 623-930-2249 or visiting [www.glendaleaz.com/boardsandcommissions](http://www.glendaleaz.com/boardsandcommissions). Board and commission members must reside in Glendale.



**Glendale Engineering Department Honored.** The city of Glendale's Engineering Department was recently honored by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) for multiple projects the city completed in the last year.

Three projects in total were recognized; Grand Excellence Awards were bestowed to the Pedestrian/Bike Bridge at 63rd Avenue and Loop 101 and the Sahuaro Ranch Park softball complex renovation. The third Glendale design, the Oasis Groundwater Treatment Plant, was awarded the Honor Excellence Award.

**The Pedestrian/Bike Bridge**, which opened in May, now provides regional connectivity to the Valley's multi-use pathway system. The cable-stay bridge has 20 cables that are each 1 and 3/8-inches thick holding the bridge in place. The bridge is 260 feet across and weighs approximately 198 tons, and is the first bridge of its kind in Arizona. Another aspect of the project is a pedestrian-friendly crossing signal, called a HAWK (High-intensity Activated crossWalk specifically designed for pedestrians.

**The 25-year-old Sahuaro Ranch Park softball complex** was completely overhauled. The renovations and redesign focused on the lack of shade; opportunities for "green" improvements; and efficiencies in electrical, water and other costs. The design added two multi-purpose fields to the original ball field design to support youth soccer, football and other organized activities. The new design increases comfort and capacity of the seating areas for viewing events and the fields are now completely handicap accessible. In addition, the ball fields have a special soils mix engineered for increased drainage, enriched organics to cut down on fertilizers and chemicals, and a blend of materials for moisture retention to reduce the annual water consumption. The turf areas also have new sprinkler irrigation, equipped with a 'fertigation' system, allowing staff to fertilize and irrigate simultaneously. Fertigation allows the turf to absorb up to 90% of the applied nutrients, as opposed to previous rates of 10-40%.

**The Oasis Groundwater Treatment Plant** was a complex and technical facility, the completion of which epitomizes a four-year, 50-million-dollar project that includes a central groundwater plant at Oasis campus, six groundwater wells throughout the city and six miles of conveyance piping. This plant complements the existing Oasis Surface Water Plant,

an ACEC Grand Excellence Award, as well as the American Public Works Association (APWA) Project of the Year in 2009. The 10-million-gallon Ion Exchange (IX) plant will remove nitrate from groundwater and supply to the distribution grid. Being the largest IX plant west of the Mississippi, this landmark groundwater plant provides unprecedented flexibility, redundancy, reliability and quality to the water production portfolio for the city.

For information on Glendale's Engineering Department and the city's capitol projects, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/engineering](http://www.glendaleaz.com/engineering). For more information on ACEC, visit [www.acec.org](http://www.acec.org).

**Trail Improvements at Thunderbird Paseo Park.** Minor trail improvements will be conducted at Thunderbird Paseo Park on Nov. 15 by Glendale's Parks, Recreation and Library Services Department.

The improvements will be made to the park's trail system between 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue, south of Cactus Road, to 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Greenway Road. The trail system will remain open during the process; however, there will be several detours around the path that will require trail users to use alternative path surfaces such as decomposed granite, turf or temporary asphalt.

The temporary path surfaces will have minimal impact on users, but all trail users should exercise extra caution when approaching trail work and using the temporary surfaces. Users are asked to observe all temporary directional signage.

For more information, call 623-930-2653.

**HOV Lane Project Enters Final Stage of Construction.** The Loop 101 HOV lane project is now entering the final stage of construction and crews will be working on the finishing touches of the newly opened HOV lanes that span the 30 mile stretch between I-10 and State Route 51. As work continues on the HOV lanes on the Loop 101 (Agua Fria Freeway), drivers should be aware of a number of upcoming restrictions and closures, which include:

- Northbound Loop 101 will be closed between Camelback Road and Glendale Avenue from 10 p.m. Friday to 2 p.m. Saturday (Nov. 5) for final striping. On-ramps at Thomas and Indian School roads also closed. DETOUR: Exit at Camelback Road to 91st or 99th avenues north to Glendale Avenue to access Loop 101.
- Westbound Loop 101 will be closed between State Route 51 and 35th Avenue from 4 a.m. Saturday to 9 a.m. Sunday (Nov. 6) for permanent striping.
- The Northbound State Route 51 ramp to westbound Loop 101 will be closed from 4 a.m. Saturday to 9 a.m. Sunday (Nov. 6) for HOV lane project. DETOUR: Exit at Bell Road or Union Hills Drive west to 35th Avenue north to access Loop 101.
- Northbound Loop 101 will be narrowed to two lanes between Olive Avenue and Bell Road from 10 p.m. Saturday to 4 p.m. Sunday (Nov. 6) for permanent striping.

A full listing of closures and additional information on this project can be found at [www.valleyfreeways.com/aguafriaclosures](http://www.valleyfreeways.com/aguafriaclosures).

## Around Town

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**For the Love of Flowers - November 5.** You will want to make your way to the Catlin Court District on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to enjoy a truly special day devoted to gardening. You'll be able to speak with flower experts and other local floral groups to learn everything from pruning to planting and flower care. To round out the gardening theme for the day, there will be speakers from the University of Arizona Master Gardener Program with topics including gardening for wildlife, citrus selection & care and container gardening. For more information, call 623-931-0339.

**Annual Holiday Open House - November 12.** The holiday season gets off to a big start in Historic Downtown Glendale with the Annual Holiday Open House scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 12, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Participating shops will be glistening and shining with all the trimmings.

Shops in Old Towne and Catlin Court will all have a special way of celebrating the Holiday Open House. Shoppers will find festive decorations, great gift selections, drawings, refreshments and much more! This is one of the most anticipated and best events of the year and shop owners pull out all the stops to make it a spectacular day. Start at the Glendale Visitor Center for an event map and the first 250 visitors will receive a free gift bag.

Many of the shops will extend their hours into the evening after the open house concludes. Come early, spend the day and get a jump start on your holiday gift and décor shopping. [Click here](#) for more information.

**City Recycling Cell Phones for Good Cause Through Nov. 30.** The city of Glendale is dialing in on a good cause with its annual cell phone recycling campaign. [Read more](#)

**Contact Councilmember Martinez**  
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